

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN.

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Tuesday, February 18, 1862.

Reading Matter on every page.

No Reception To-night.—Owing to the continued illness in the President's family, there will be no reception to-night.

We regret to learn that Senator Foot was called home yesterday evening, by the death of Mrs. Foot's mother. His absence, we hear, will be brief.

EUROPEAN INTERVENTION IN MEXICO.

The combined French, Spanish and English expedition against Mexico, was commenced with the formal declaration by all the parties concerned, of any intention of conquest. The pecuniary redress of past grievances and security against new ones, were announced to be the sole objects of the movement.

The London Times of January 31, brought by the Asia, lays down principles, however, which go the whole length of depriving the Mexicans of all further control of their affairs, and of subjecting them to foreign control.

The Times says:

"The Mexicans had shown themselves utterly incapable of constituting themselves a State. In a period of trial, protracted through forty years, they had been unable to form any stable or effective Government at all. Since their revolt from the dominion of Spain they have had 27 different constitutions, under which tyrants in various shapes have been exercised by 55 different Presidents. These rulers have not only neglected their most rudimentary duties in the protection of life and property, but have committed so many and such scandalous outrages on the subjects of foreign States, that it would have been competent to Spain, or England, or France to declare war against the country at once, and to exact retribution at the cannon's mouth. The piratical States of Barbary were hardly guilty of more notorious delinquencies than this miserable Republic, and it would be as easy to justify an advance upon Mexico as an attack upon Algiers. Most nations, it is true, have passed in their turn through periods of corruption and strife, but the Mexicans have never given us the least reason to hope that in their case this novelties would ever have an end. If there had been any visible approach to a better order of things, or any prospect of a sound political organization, this intervention would never have occurred. But Mexico has gone from bad to worse. She has not only shown no capacity for improvement, but she has continued the worst of her own citizens included—that she is utterly incompetent, without further tutelage, to exercise those powers of self-government for the sake of which she revolted."

The significance of what is here said is not at all impaired by the fact that there is a good deal of truth in it.

Mexico is pronounced incapable of self-government, and to require the "further tutelage" of that European control unwisely thrown off forty years ago. And it is declared to be as justifiable to reduce her to her old condition, as it was to make a French province of Algeria.

It is not doubtful that the aristocracy, whose mouthpiece the Times is, would be glad to see the United States reduced to the same anarchy which has demoralized Mexico, and that to this end, they are giving all possible encouragement to the slaveholders' rebellion.

The events induced by our civil war, the seizure of Dominica by Spain, the invasion of Mexico by the combined European Powers, and the desire manifested in England to divide and conquer the United States, will before long produce their proper effect, in bringing back the old views of the necessity of maintaining our American nationality in a condition of strength adequate to resist the wiles and assaults of the transatlantic despotism. It is only by being united that we can be really independent. Separation means dependence in some form and under some name, and the same is of little consequence, upon foreign Powers.

The leaders of the slaveholders' rebellion, fearing nothing so much as the personal consequences to themselves of defeat in their present enterprise, are ready to offer anything to Europe, for the sake of escaping their impending fate. But if the leaders are ready for this sacrifice, the masses of the Southern people cannot be so.

Events have demonstrated that real independence is not within the power of the South, and that what is called the "domination of the North," if it can be shaken off at all, can be so only at the cost of accepting such foreign aid as will draw after it, as an inevitable consequence, submission to a "domination" still more odious and intolerable.

And both North and South can see, in the events passing in Mexico, the results of national weakness, brought on by fratricidal content, in delivering up first one portion and then another portion of America, to the rapacity and ambition of Powers, which, like Alexander, will sigh for new worlds, when they have completed the conquest of this one.

TELEGRAPHIC FACT.—On Sunday the military telegraph, the line of the American Telegraph Company and those of the Western Union Company, were connected with the headquarters of Maj. Gen. McClellan, and put in direct connection with General Bull at Louisville, General Halleck at St. Louis, and Commodore Foote at Cairo. By arrangement, the messages of the General-in-chief to each commander were repeated at the same time to the others. The distance traversed by the electric fluid at one writing was over thirteen hundred miles. The communication was maintained from eleven o'clock A. M. until six P. M., with the promptness of a personal interview, and not only gave entire satisfaction, but also called forth the warmly expressed admiration of the distinguished correspondents.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY has officially congratulated Com. Foote, Com. Goldsborough, and Gen. Burnside, for their gallant exploits.

COTTON IN ILLINOIS.

We print a communication on this subject from a highly intelligent gentleman, who sends with it some fine specimens of Illinois cotton. The labor question which he presents is only a temporary one, as laborers never long fall to appear where fair wages invite them. Negro labor might doubtless be obtained for the cotton cultivation in Illinois, if popular prejudices there did not prevent it. One third of the constitutional convention now sitting at Springfield has just voted for the total expulsion of the negro race from the State. White labor can probably be introduced in less time than it will take to overcome this repugnance to black labor.

The labor of freed negroes in producing cotton may be made available in Kansas and in the Indian territory, where the obstacle existing in Illinois is not found.

RECEPTION OF THE NEWS IN CONGRESS.—It will be seen by our Congressional proceedings of yesterday, that the cheering news from the South and West was received in the House of Representatives by the most enthusiastic demonstrations of applause. We learn that it was a long time after the reading of the intelligence, before the House could be restored to order, so as to perform the business before them, and so intensely had the news impressed itself on the minds of the members, that it frequently cropped out during the debate the remainder of the session.

In the Senate, the perfect stillness prevailing during the reading of the dispatch was broken upon by hearty applause in the galleries, despite the expected hammer of the Vice President, who promptly, in a reasonable and proper appreciation of the peculiar nature of the occasion, ruled that the applause was not out of order, being "neither in commendation or censure of Senators;" and then, how the galleries, floor, and all, rang out in a thunderous burst of glad and grateful acknowledgment for this great victory of our loyal arms! When Mr. Grimes subsequently asked the reading of the dispatch telling how General Floyd, in the expert exercise of his peculiar profession, stole away, a laugh of derision attested the estimation in which the thieving traitor was held.

THE SLAVE TRADER GORDON.—Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion, yesterday, in the case of Gordon, denying the motion for a writ of prohibition, on the ground of want of power to the Court to review proceedings in criminal cases, or to restrain the action of a ministerial officer.

Application will now be made to the President to commute his punishment, which we hope will be done. The law consigns him to the gallows, but the receiver is as guilty as the thief, and so long as slavery is a recognized institution of this country, (and we suppose it will soon be nationalized, by the reconstruction of the Union, upon the slavery basis,) fostered and protected, there is no consistency in hanging the foreign slave trader, and protecting by law the domestic trader. If one is right, so is the other. If we abolish slavery, there will be no foreign slave trader. Gordon's business is a part of the general system, and he should be treated with as much kindness and tenderness as though he were a border State slave holder, breeder or trader. We hope to be able to record the commutation of his punishment, or his unconditional pardon.

THE RECONSTRUCTION.—Now that the rebellion is considered dead, or dying, slavery again rears its head in another form. Amos Kendall has commenced a series of letters to President Lincoln, in which he will endeavor to show that the Union must be reconstructed upon the old pro-slavery basis. That such an attempt will be made, without Amos's advice, we conceive to be true, but the party that undertakes it will have a lively time. If Mr. Kendall, or any other man, thinks that the people of the free States, after the experience of the last few months, will do anything to sustain the cause of the rebellion, he deserves to be sent to the lunatic asylum, as an incurable idiot.

Fort Good Hope.—This fortification, just across the East Branch, under the jurisdiction of General Keim, is in fine condition. The son of General Keim, William H. Keim, aged sixteen, was on Thursday thrown from his horse and suffered considerable injury. An drew Stewart, Jr., recently of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania, has been appointed senior aid. Noah L. Jeffries, of the Fifty-ninth, has an appointment on the General's staff. Doubleday's Fourth Regiment New York artillery, from General Smith's division, is now in this brigade.

The health of the troops there is excellent, but three soldiers being in the hospital. There has not been a death there for many weeks.

THE VICTORY.—The glorious news of yesterday created great excitement in Congress, and throughout the city. The successes of the last week have reassured the country in the efficiency of the Administration, and its determination to crush the rebellion, which has already received its death-blow. Columbus, Nashville, and Knoxville will soon be ours, and to these we may shortly add Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, and Richmond.

GENERAL LANDER.—The President, through the Secretary of War, has complimented Gen. Lander on the activity and enterprise manifested by him and the officers and soldiers of his command. They have shown how much may be done in the worst weather and the worst roads. The prominent success of Gen. Lander is, the Secretary says, "a happy prelude of what may be expected when the army of the Potomac shall be called to the field by their gallant general."

NEXT LECTURE.—Rev. CHAS. G. AMES, of Illinois, who will lecture before the Washington Lecture Association on Wednesday evening, at the Smithsonian, has arrived in the city. His subject will be—"What will become of the Republic?" from which fruitful theme, we have no doubt, from what we hear of the lecturer's originality and power, a most interesting discourse may be expected.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Important from the South.

THE CONFEDERATE ARMY SURRENDERED AT FORT DONELSON.

CAPTURE OF GENERALS FLOYD, PELLOW, JOHNSON, AND BUCKNER, WITH FIFTEEN THOUSAND OTHER PRISONERS.

SAVANNAH REPORTED TO BE TAKEN BY THE FEDERALS.

BALTIMORE, February 17.—The Old Point boat this morning brings the following news: FORTRESS MONROE, February 18.—The propeller Planet arrived here this afternoon from Baltimore, having on board the submarine cable to be laid across the bay from this point to Cape Charles.

The line has already been completed from Wilmington, Delaware, to Cape Charles, and also from the headquarters of General Wool, about a mile up the beach, to the place selected for the crossing. The line will be sunk in a few days, and as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. This department will be connected directly by telegraph with Washington and New York, and the Government and the public will become informed of the important news transmitted hence from twelve to twenty-four hours earlier than at present. The line will be under the management of Mr. Wm. H. Heiss, of the U. S. military telegraph, and will be of the greatest value to the Government.

By a flag of truce to-day, we hear that Fort Donelson surrendered to Gen. Grant yesterday. Generals Floyd, Pellow, Johnson and Buckner were taken together with fifteen thousand other prisoners.

We are also informed that the fighting has been going on near Savannah, and that that city has probably been captured.

The Spaniards sailed this afternoon. The wind now blows clear.

In the anticipation of a visit from the Secretary of War, the Tenth New York regiment was ordered to parade at seven o'clock this morning, and the Secretary of War to be received by a salute and other honors.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH ANNOUNCING THE VICTORY AT FORT DONELSON.

CAIRO, Feb. 17, 1862.—Major General McClellan. The Union flag floats over Fort Donelson. The Confederates, Captain Walker, brings the glorious intelligence. The fort surrendered at 9 o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning. Generals Johnson (A. Sidney) and Buckner and fifteen thousand (15,000) prisoners, and a large amount of material of war, are the trophies of victory.

Loss heavy on both sides.

Floyd, the thief, stole away, during the night previous, with five thousand men, and is denounced by the rebels as a traitor.

I am happy to inform you that Flag Officer Foote, though suffering with his foot, with the noble spirit characteristic of our navy, notwithstanding his disability, will take up immediately two gunboats, and with the eight mortar boats which he will operate, will make an immediate attack on Clarksville, if the stage of water will permit.

We are now firing a national salute from Fort Cairo, General Grant's late post, in honor of the glorious achievement.

Brig. Gen. Vol. and U. S. A., and Chief of Staff and Engineers.

THE VERY LATEST.

Further of the Capture of Fort Donelson.

TEN THOUSAND OF THE ENEMY KILLED OR DISABLED, AND FIFTEEN THOUSAND PRISONERS.

St. Louis, Feb. 17.—Further official advice from Fort Donelson says that General Floyd, in the night, and the rebels in the fort denounced him as a black-hearted traitor and coward.

The enemy, it is known, have had 20,000 troops at Fort Donelson, 15,000 of whom are prisoners; and a large amount of material of war, are the trophies of victory.

Our loss is not stated, but the slaughter in our ranks is mentioned as terribly severe.

From the West.

PARTICULARS OF THE EVACUATION OF BOWLING GREEN.

IMMENSE COLUMNS OF OUR FORCES MOVING TOWARDS NASHVILLE AND UP THE CUMBERLAND RIVER.

Cincinnati, Feb. 17.—The Cincinnati Commercial has the following:

On learning the retreat of the rebels, forced marches were ordered by Gen. Mitchell, to save, if possible, the railroad turnpike and bridges on the Cumberland river. They have been done so, destroyed when Mitchell reached the banks of the river.

The brigades of Breckinridge and Hindman were still Thursday evening at Woodland Station.

The rebels left nothing at Bowling Green except a few old wagons. A part of the town is reported to be burned.

It is believed there are no rebel forces now in Kentucky east of the direct road from Bowling Green via Franklin and Nashville.

It is believed that the rebels have fallen back on Russellville, where Buckner's and Floyd's brigades have been stationed for some time.

Mr. Bowen said he knew of cavalry regiments that had not received any pay at yet for four months service, and thought it would be hard to muster them out of service and make them pay for their clothing.

Mr. ANTHONY moved to amend by adding the following: "Wherever the Secretary of War may deem it equitable."

Other amendments being suggested, involving further consideration and an extended session.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, the subject was postponed, and the Senate went into executive session.

Adjourned.

THIRTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

IN SENATE.

Monday, February 18, 1862.

MEMORIALS, &c.

The following memorial, &c., were read and duly referred.

By Mr. HOWARD: From citizens of Michigan relative to the expediency of making a mail route from Saginaw to the Straits of Mackinaw.

By Mr. HARRIS: From citizens of New York, for the emancipation of slaves, and thus complete the work which the Revolution began.

Also, one asking that General Wool be made a full major general.

Mr. HARRIS read a letter to the Secretary of the Interior, and other documents, relative to the discovery of coal mines in California.

NEW COLLECTION DISTRICT. On motion of Mr. McDOUGALL, it was resolved to request the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of making a new collection district in California, the office to be located at Yreka, Humboldt county.

WASHINGTON AND OREGON WAR DEBT. Mr. NESMITH called up the joint resolution authorizing the payment of the Washington and Oregon war debt, providing the appropriation of \$2,500,000, and the payment of the soldiers at the same rate paid to the present volunteer force now in service. Passed.

WAR NEWS. Mr. LANE, of Indiana, asked to have a dispatch read. It proved to be a dispatch to General McClellan, announcing the capture of Fort Donelson, with fifteen thousand men and munitions of war. Applause in the galleries was freely permitted, and was participated in by the floor of the Senate, the Vice President ruling that the applause was neither approbation nor censure of Senators.

Mr. FOOT soon after offered a Confederate dispatch, announcing the same result and the capture of Generals Johnson, Floyd, Pellow, and Buckner.

Mr. GRIMES said he wished a dispatch read from Com. Foote, announcing that Gen. Floyd stole away during the night previous to the surrender. It was read.

TELEGRAPH LINE TO ROME. Mr. LATHAM, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred petitions for a telegraph line from San Francisco to the Amoor river, reported a bill for that purpose.

[This bill provides for a survey of a route for a telegraph line from San Francisco to the Amoor river in Eastern Asia; details an officer of topographical engineers to conduct the survey; provides for the purchase of land; and the distribution of the Secretary of the Navy; and appropriates \$400,000 for the object.]

REDUCTION OF PAY. Mr. CHANDLER, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill limiting compensation of collectors of customs, naval officers, and other officers employed in the collection of customs. It provides that these officers shall not receive a sum beyond \$10,000 per annum, including commissions, perquisites, and forfeitures.

JUDICIAL. Mr. HARRIS called up the bill to change and regulate the terms of the district court of the northern district of New York, which was read a third time, and with a brief statement by Mr. Harris, passed.

THE CAPITOL EXTENSION. Mr. FOOT, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported a joint resolution transferring the supervision of the Capitol extension from the War Department to the Department of the Interior.

REORGANIZATION OF THE CAVALRY. Mr. JOHNSON submitted a resolution of thanks to officers and men who have achieved the victory at Fort Donelson. Adopted.

REORGANIZATION OF CAVALRY FORCES. Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, called up the bill for the better organization of the cavalry forces of the United States. He said there were seventy-eight regiments of cavalry, partially armed, partially equipped—at least a large portion were thus incomplete. He deemed it important that this bill, reducing the number of these regiments to fifty, by consolidation and disbanding of the residue, should be passed.

Mr. FESSENDEN moved to amend to substitute "fifty" for "fifty." The expense of these fragments of regiments was enormous. They were becoming demoralized by inaction, and should be disbanded.

MEAS. TEN EYCK and WILLEY were opposed to the reduction, deeming a large force of cavalry as essentially necessary.

Mr. GRIMES thought it advisable, in the present aspect of affairs, to defer the consideration of the bill for a short time. If we should at once break up the army, the rebels, too guerrilla parties, we should need a large force of cavalry.

Mr. WILSON was willing to compromise on forty regiments.

Mr. FESSENDEN modified his amendment to coincide.

MEAS. KING and DOOLITTLE went for the original proposition of fifty.

On the amendment of Mr. Fessenden the vote stood—yeas 25, nays 10.

Mr. DOOLITTLE submitted an amendment, providing that the United States should allow to officers and soldiers, pay for uniforms and equipment at the original cost.

Mr. BOWE said he knew of cavalry regiments that had not received any pay at yet for four months service, and thought it would be hard to muster them out of service and make them pay for their clothing.

Mr. ANTHONY moved to amend by adding the following: "Wherever the Secretary of War may deem it equitable."

Other amendments being suggested, involving further consideration and an extended session.

On motion of Mr. WILSON, the subject was postponed, and the Senate went into executive session.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

CORRECTION OF THE JOURNAL. Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, asked and obtained leave to correct the journal of last Friday's session. His motion on the bill to employ a stenographer for the committee on the conduct of the war, was not referred to that committee, but to the Committee on Military Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES. Reports of committees, for reference merely, in private matters were presented and referred.

Mr. COLFAX, of Indiana, stated that he had been requested by General McClellan to state to the House that he has just received intelligence that our army had captured Fort Donelson, &c., &c., which intelligence produced the hearty applause throughout the House.

Mr. BLAKE, of Ohio, moved that the rules of the House be suspended, in order to allow the members to give three cheers.

The motion was ruled out of order.

CONTRACT FOR HORSES. Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, from the committee on Government contracts, to which was referred the advertisement of Gen. Van Vleet, in the National Intelligencer, in reference to horses, reported that, though the notice was a brief one, yet it was required by the necessities of the case, and the committee asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject. Adopted.

FURTHER WAR NEWS. Mr. COLFAX, of Indiana, stated that he had received further intelligence from the War Department. It was from a rebel source, in which they admit the fall of Fort Donelson,

and the capture of Buckner, Floyd, and a large force, &c., &c. [Baptismal applause, followed by great confusion throughout the House.]

Mr. WRIGHT, of Pennsylvania, moved the House adjourn.

Several members stated that it was evident the House was in no condition to transact the business before it, after the cheering news received this morning. The motion was lost.

COMMITTEE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR. The Senate bill providing for the employment of a stenographer for the joint committee on the conduct of the war, being in order, the Mr. GOOCH, of Massachusetts, took the floor for the purpose of addressing the House on the bill, when

Mr. MALLOY, of Kentucky, moved that the joint committee on the conduct of the war be discharged from the further consideration of that subject. He contended that, at the rate our army is now pushing its successes, an investigation of its conduct is unnecessary.

The motion was ruled out of order.

Mr. GOOCH moved an amendment, to the effect that the compensation of the stenographer be paid out of money already appropriated to that committee.

Mr. GOOCH said that the debate on this subject on Friday last, proceeded from a simple resolution to employ a stenographer for the committee on the conduct of the war. But the debate took a wide range. He (Mr. Gooch) could not understand on Friday whether the remarks of the gentlemen on that subject (Mr. Wickliffe) were intended as a censure on the House, or on the committee, and he had come to the conclusion that he intended to censure both.

The debate on Friday was sufficient to convince the House and the country of the necessity for this committee. When grave charges are made in this House and elsewhere, against gentlemen in high official position, and it is high time such charges were investigated. He then made some explanation as to the manner in which the duties of that committee had been performed. It had been in session from the time of its appointment, almost every day, including the holidays, and had given close attention to the duties assigned to it. He made further statements of its duties.

Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, asked if that committee had not had General McClellan before them?

Mr. GOOCH replied, that the committee had had the commander of our army before it, not by a summons, but by invitation; not to take testimony, but for mutual consultation; and the interview was a very agreeable one on both sides. Another charge against the committee is, that it is a secret committee. The committee would plead guilty to that charge, and would say that it had so well succeeded in keeping the proceedings secret, and had been made in the committee did not even amount to respectable guessing. The committee agree that fighting, and fighting only, is the best method of conquering the rebellion.

A running debate ensued on the battle of Bull Run and the conduct of General Patterson, which was participated in by Messrs. BLAIR, of Missouri, STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, MAYNARD, of Tennessee, and BIDDLE, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, of Kentucky, said he was opposed to the committee, not personally, but as a principle. It is an assumption of undue power on the part of the House. This committee indirectly controls the army. Such department of the Government ought to be independent, yet this committee has the power to bring the President of the United States before them.

Mr. THOMAS, of Massachusetts, denied that the committee had such power.

Mr. CRITTENDEN continued. This House is the high parliamentary court of this country, and you have given this committee power to send for persons and papers, and did not make any exceptions in favor of the President or any one else.

Mr. R. CONKLING, of New York, quoted from the proceedings of the Continental Congress, to sustain the action of the House in the appointment of this committee. He believed that to this committee mainly we are largely indebted for the increased vitality recently manifested by our army, and for the glorious news which has been so emphatically applauded in this House to-day.

The amendment was adopted.

The question was then taken on the passage of the bill, and it was passed.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Mr. LOVEJOY, of Ill., from the Committee on Agriculture, moved to take from the hands of the committee the bill to establish an Agricultural Department, and that it be put upon its passage.

After considerable running debate on the bill, it was passed—YEAS 12, NAYS 7.

PORT OFFICE APPROPRIATIONS. On motion of Mr. STEVENS, of Pa., the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of considering the bill for appropriations for the Post Office Department for the year ending June, 1863, and an additional appropriation for the year 1862. Mr. Wheeler, of N. Y., in the chair.

Mr. ARNOLD, of Ill., spoke at considerable length on the subject of the rebellion.

Twenty millions of people are at day rejoicing over the greatest victory of this war. We have double cause for joy. The inactivity of our army is at an end, and henceforth we may safely calculate on a continued succession of brilliant achievements. If we will only look this matter in the face and pursue the right policy, we can soon break up the rebel army.

He then proceeded to review the past history and present features of the rebellion, and declared that the true policy is to emancipate the slaves, and not leave them to produce the necessary supplies for the rebels, and leave them with both hands free to combat with us.

At the close of Mr. Arnold's remarks, the committee rose, without coming to any conclusion on the bill.

SIGNAL SERVICE. Mr. BLAIR, of Missouri, from the Committee on Military Affairs, presented a Senate bill to increase and perfect the signal service of the United States, with a recommendation that it pass.

The bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. COX, of Ohio, the House adjourned.

Fire. About two o'clock yesterday afternoon, the large white building on the north side of F street, near Fifteenth, was discovered in flames. The upper story was occupied as a boarding house by Mr. G. Planig, who had a liquor store on the lower floor. Another room was used as a saloon by Mr. Wood. The alarm was given, and the Franklin Fire Company, the police, and a number of soldiers were soon on the spot, and succeeded in removing the goods from the stores, and a portion of the furniture from the upper part of the building. The firemen worked nobly, assisted by the soldiers and citizens, and succeeded in confining the fire to the building in which it originated, but which was entirely destroyed, together with much of the furniture. The adjoining buildings were slightly damaged. The house is the property of two ladies, sisters, named Clark, and is probably insured. We regret to say that the loss is not altogether trifling. A very considerable portion is by the operation of thieves, of whom a large number was on the ground.

Elizabeth City is said to have been fired by Gen. Henningsen's orders, but the patriotic work of its destruction was only partially accomplished, as the contrabands, who were by the Yankees, who were vigorously assisted by the "Union" men of the place.

OFFICIAL.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, February 18, 1862. Information has been received at this Department from Mr. R. W. RAUFORD, the Consul General of the United States at Havana, that the Supreme Government of Spain has granted the exemption from export duty hitherto granted to agricultural products, run distilled from molasses, and the exemption from tonnage dues to such vessels only as, having come in ballast, shall leave entirely loaded with molasses. Feb 17—3117

OFFICIAL.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

February 4, 1862. Holders of bonds of the United States, dated August 19, 1861, and payable three years from date, are hereby notified that provision is made for the payment of the Coupons of semi-annual interest which become due on the 1st instant, in coin, agreeably to their tenor, by the Treasurer of the United States at Washington, or by either of the Assistant Treasurers at New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. All such Coupons, together with schedules showing the number and amount of each Coupon, and the aggregate sum of each parcel, must be presented for examination and verification at least three full business days before payment. S. P. CHASE, Feb 6—119th Secretary of the Treasury.